

**Join us Monday,  
October 12, 2009  
6:30 pm at Suburban  
Park Elementary.  
Doors open at 6 pm  
for refreshments and  
socializing.**

**Suburban Acres  
Civic League is  
actively seeking  
nominations for the  
2010 Executive  
Committee. For more  
information on how to  
volunteer, see page 3.**

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# THE SUBURBAN

[www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com)

## Message from the President

I have one very specific memory from my childhood of sitting at the dinner table waiting for my father to come home from work. Looking at the sliding doors in our dining room, it was pitch black outside and I could see only my reflection in the glass. It couldn't have been late into the 5:00 hour as I sat...waiting and feeling a bit *sorry* for my dad who left that morning before light and would be returning after dark.



*Event details for the Suburban Acres 2nd Annual Harvest Celebration are on page 6*

The days are getting shorter, and we find ourselves in the house a lot earlier. Going are the evenings of relaxing in the yard at the end of a warm sunny day. Unfortunately, it seems we lose touch with our neighbors a little bit as the cooler weather and shorter days move in. And on November 1st, daylight savings will end and the sun will sleep even sooner...and fathers like mine will return from a long day at work -- unusually after dark.

Many good things come from this time of year,

though. For starters, who doesn't love the change of the seasons. The leaves are beginning to break and the refreshing air sweeps away the heat of the summer (*translation: the AC finally turns off for a minute or two!*). In a few short weeks, the clear plastic bag industry reigns the economy (*there's your stock hint*). But really, it's the harvest season...a time to reap the rewards of hard work. Fortunately, we didn't have to wait the whole summer to pick tomatoes and such, but...this *is* the season of the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown!

***On Saturday, October 24th, our Civic League is sponsoring a community get-together to celebrate the harvest and welcome this seasonal change that is an essential part of the cycle.*** The 2008 chili recipe champion will hope to defend the title, and pumpkin artists alike will pull from their most creative inspirations. There will be activities for the costumed youngsters, and a genuine good time for our community. Perhaps this will also be a great opportunity to trade seeds from your harvest -- for a broader planting next year.

As for a good crop, we sow, we tend to, and we reap the rewards of good neighborly relationships. Let that be our *suburban* meaning for this annual Harvest Celebration. A time to celebrate the *produce* to which we tend throughout the year. Let us laugh together at the weeds that may have attempted to choke out our efforts and let us celebrate our fruitful planting. May we share and enjoy that which is the best of the harvest -- our neighbors!

***Linus grinned. "You'll see the Great Pumpkin with your own eyes! The Great Pumpkin has to pick this patch. I don't see how a pumpkin patch could be more sincere than this."***

Regards,

*Timothy M. Fox*

Photography by Timothy Fox



# Suburban Acres Civic League

## Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2009

Meeting brought to order at 6:42 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

### PACE Report

Officer Curtis Jackson – Topics included the Denby Park homicide the previous night, crime statistics for the preceding month, and discussion on the necessity of reporting on crimes and reinvigorating Neighborhood Watch.

Mr. Harris Hart of Virginia Natural Gas as Guest Speaker – Provided presentation on the Energy Smart Program and the various conservation and efficiency improvements it supports.

### Committee Updates

Meeting/Programs/Events Committee – Pending events include the October Suburban Acres Civic League meeting on October 12, the Fall Harvest Party on October 24, and the SACL General Meeting for Executive Committee Election on November 9.

No other committee updates noted.

### Treasurer's Report

For August, the League took in revenues totaling \$166.00 and expended \$170.25, ending with a checking account balance of \$1,271.23. Eighty-eight households have current memberships.

### Old/Scheduled Business

Minutes of the August SACL Meeting were approved.

Open Comment Period on the Proposed Dog Park – A number of members came forward to express varying points of view.

### Announcements

The Revised Constitution and Bylaws are posted online at the SACL website.

A Greater Wards Corner Partnership meeting is scheduled for October 10 at 11:30 a.m., with lunch available for a nominal cost. (Note: The Partnership website now advertises the meeting for Sep 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the Workforce Development Center).

The Purser family of 425 Suburban Parkway are recipients of the September SACL Yard of the Month.

Audrey Renn spoke on behalf of the September 27 Walk-a-thon for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

### New Business

Formation of the Nominating Committee for the November General Meeting – Dee Adams will chair, supported by Susan Bastinelli and Steve Collins. All members are asked for their support and participation in the nominating process as we head toward November elections.

Discussion on encouraging youth involvement with SACL.

Elyse Kalfus spoke on behalf of the Wards Corner Partnership. The Partnership website, [wardscornernow.com](http://wardscornernow.com), provides additional information.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rob Lain (for Secretary Eric Heard)**

## 2009 Civic League Meeting and Events Calendar

October 12	Civic League Meeting
October 24	Harvest Celebration
November 9	Civic League Meeting
December 14	Civic League Meeting

**Civic League meetings are held at Suburban Park Elementary School, 310 Thole Street, unless otherwise noted. Check the newsletter or visit our website at [www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com) for additional information.**

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## November Elections Approach

### **Our Civic League Needs You!**

"I've participated in SACL from the month I moved into this neighborhood in November 2006; serving on the Board, as Vice President, and currently as President. I know many folks avoid similar involvement out of concern for the time commitment. I have to tell you, this organization isn't managed on auto pilot, nor is the commitment overwhelming. I've found it to be very adequately paced and rewarding being engaged at a level that can influence continued progress in our community. I strongly encourage you to get involved and put your name in the hat. The Civic League NEEDS people like you! Thanks."

Timothy Fox

Suburban Acres Civic League (SACL) is seeking interest from its enthusiastic membership to lead the organization through 2010. Elections will be held at the general meeting November 9th. If you are a SACL member (or would like to become a member at the October meeting) and have an interest in helping to steer the organization through the coming year, you are encouraged to contact the nominating committee to put your name on the ballot.

Nominations will be presented at the October 12th general meeting. Nominations from the floor may be made at the November meeting.

The Executive Committee is the *President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and four Board of Directors*. These roles are integral to the success of our Civic League, as they establish the league agenda for the year and guide the progress of our community organization. Duties of the Executive Committee can be found in the SACL By-Laws, but briefly include:

**President :** The president shall preside at all meetings, chair the Board of Directors, appoint chairs of standing committees.

**Vice-President:** Performs the duties of the president in the president's absence, chairs the meetings and programs committee, and assists the president as necessary.

**Secretary:** Keeps a record of the minutes of all League and Board of Directors meetings, maintains a list of League members, administers all correspondence, notifies Board members of the time and location of meetings, acts as registrar for meeting attendance, and collects and counts ballots.

**Treasurer:** Responsible for the receipt, control, accounting, and upon authorization, the disbursement of League funds. The treasurer prepares financial reports as required by the president or the Board of Directors.

**Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors prepares and presents an annual budget and an annual program of proposed action.

**What's the commitment?** The Executive Committee meets monthly between general meetings, and communicates frequently within the group to ensure it's continued progress.

**Call Nominating Committee chair Dee Adams at 353-1506, or committee members Sue Bastinelli (588-0388) or Steve Collins (416-6158).**



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Hello Suburban Acres! My name is Janette. My family has been in this neighborhood for almost 45 years. Most of you have known me since I was a little girl playing in the yard, or knew my daddy and his corvettes and the ton of work done to the home on Thole Street. I want to give back to Suburban Acres now.

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Janette Woodruff-Whitlock  
Senior Mortgage Banker



## Civic League and Community News

For more news and events visit our website at [www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com)

### Harvest Celebration Saturday, October 24th

Join your neighbors on Saturday, October 24th for the 2nd Annual Suburban Acres Harvest Celebration. Activities include a chili cook off, carved pumpkin contest, costumes, fun activities for the kids, prizes, and an all around good time with your neighbors. See page 6 for information and location.

### Call for 2010 Board Nominations

Suburban Acres Civic League is preparing for the election of Officers and Board of Directors for 2010. Would you enjoy the reward of helping to guide our thriving Civic League? If you're enthusiastic about our neighborhood and able to commit time and energy, you could be the perfect fit. See page 3 for information.

### Greater Wards Corner Partnership Luncheon

Greater Wards Corner Partnership is sponsoring a luncheon at Noon on Saturday, October 10th at the Workforce Development Center (next to Kroger). Guest speakers will discuss the new "Eminent Domain" law and how it effects Wards Corner revitalization. Speakers include Senator Ken Cuccinelli Esq., author of the bill, Attorney Joe Waldo and Thelma Drake. Find out how you can help to move the Greater Wards Corners revitalization forward. Cost \$15.00 per person. RSVP and payment by October 7th to Elyse Kalfus, 301 Suburban Pkwy, Norfolk, VA. 23505, or call 587-7975.

### Support the Suburban Park Elementary Thanksgiving Food Drive

Suburban Park Elementary is organizing a food drive with the goal to make food baskets to ensure needy families in their school have a feast to celebrate this Thanksgiving. The Civic League is supporting this food drive, and we're asking our community to help out. We will collect canned goods at the October 12th and November 9th Civic League meetings and we will be making additional cash donations as well. If you would like to make a contribution, please email the Civic League at [suburbanacres@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanacres@gmail.com), or call Tim Fox at 338-0439.

### NFCL Candidates Forum

The Norfolk Federation of Civic Leagues meets Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Lake Taylor Hospital. Meeting topic is our Candidates Forum for the November Election.

### New EARNN Program to Launch Fall 2009

In July, 2009, the City Council reauthorized the implementation of a neighborhood incentive program called EARNN (Environmental Awards for Norfolk's Neighborhoods) to increase the level of recycling and other environmental stewardship efforts by Civic Leagues and citizens. Now, with your help, we will re launch the new EARNN program this fall.

For those of you new to the program, EARNN promotes curbside recycling and environmental stewardship in the city by rewarding those neighborhoods achieving a certain percentage of participation. Since its beginnings over ten years ago, the City has awarded thousands of dollars to Civic Leagues like yours to recognize the work of you and your neighbors to encourage more residents to increase their participation in the curbside recycling program. The *new* EARNN program, has a point system for achieving this recognition. In addition to recycling, Civic Leagues can earn points toward these cash awards by preventing litter, promoting sustainable living and energy conservation, improving storm water management and bonuses for receiving additional educational programs. The new program



*Dee and Sam Adams decorate mini-pumpkins at last year's Harvest Celebration. A "favorite recipe" Chili Cookoff, Pumpkin Carving Contest, prizes and more are planned for this event. Costumes encouraged!*

was carefully reviewed by a group of Civic League representatives from across the City last fall. For more information, call us at 441-1347 or email [susan.ash@norfolk.gov](mailto:susan.ash@norfolk.gov).

### ZooBoo at the Virginia Zoo

Come to the Virginia Zoo for a fun, safe Halloween for ghouls and goblins of all ages! Family Fun Days are perfect for all ages, and Fright Night is for braver souls. Activities include Haunted Hayride, Trick or Treat Candy Stations and more. At night board the Train of Terror and during the day, the ZooBoo Choo-Choo will delight all riders.

*Family Fun Days* are Saturday, October 31, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday, November 1, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Fright Night* is Saturday, October 31, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$4 for members and \$8 for non-members. Rides extra. Purchase tickets at the door. No discounts, coupons or passes. For information, call 441-2374, ext. 253.

(Continued from page 4)

### **Neighborhood Meet & Greet for Revenue Commissioner Sharon McDonald**

Elyse Kalfus, 301 Suburban Parkway, will host a Meet & Greet for Sharon McDonald, Commissioner of Revenue, on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 5 p.m. RSVP 587-7975 if you would like to come by and meet Sharon McDonald. Light refreshments will be served.

### **Friends of the Norfolk Public Library Annual Book Sale and Books & Brew**

The Friends of the Norfolk Public Library are excited to announce that the Annual Book Sale and Books & Brew will be held at a new location this fall, the Mary D. Pretlow Anchor Branch Library at 111 W. Ocean View Ave. The Book Sale will be Friday, October 16 – Sunday, October 18. Books & Brew will take place on Friday, October 16 from 6pm-8:30pm. For Books & Brew ticket information and Book Sale questions, call 664-7366.

### **Keep Norfolk Beautiful Presents Eco-DIY**

Keep Norfolk Beautiful presents Eco-D.I.Y., a three-part series of classes designed to give simple energy-saving solutions to residents they can do themselves. Residents learn to make small home improvements that make a BIG difference! All three classes take place at the Ernie Morgan Center, located in Lafayette Park in front of the Virginia Zoo. Space is limited, so register early to Holly Carson at 441-1347 or

[holly.carson@norfolk.gov](mailto:holly.carson@norfolk.gov)

### **Raining in the Storm**

On Wednesday, October 14, 6-8pm at Tanners Creek Garden Center, learn how to capture 'gray water' from your roof to store and use as needed for garden irrigation, car washes, and more! Participants will construct their own rain barrels (it's a lot easier, and cheaper, than you think!), and take them home! Speaker: Michael Minor, Mike's Rain Barrels. Fee: \$50 for FONE members/\$55 non-members Register by October 7th.

### **Norfolk Neighborhood University Fall Courses**

Norfolk Neighborhood University fall course schedule is now available online and registration for courses is underway. Fall courses include several informational sessions to improve the condition of neighborhood housing, the vitality of neighborhood organizations, and the overall quality of community life. For courses and schedules go to [www.norfolk.gov/neighborhoods/NU.asp](http://www.norfolk.gov/neighborhoods/NU.asp) or call 757-823-4363.

### **Birding by Boat Thursday • October 8 • 9-10:30A**

During the height of the migration season, enjoy a guided tour through the Norfolk Botanical Garden with avid birders Marilyn and Clark White. More than 95 species of birds can be seen at NBG. Search for warblers, waterfowl, wading birds and raptors. Beginners and experts welcomed. Dress for the weather, bring binoculars and field guides. Cost: \$16 (\$10 for NBG Members).

### **Letters From Our Neighbors**

## **Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody**



***“This is a little story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody’s job. Everybody thought that Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn’t do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done.” Tony Corsi***

Funny stories have hidden truths. Anybody can make a difference in their community and everybody should. The limiting factors are time, resources and personal priorities. In older more established communities like ours, everybody actually contributes to their community reputation and public order. We maintain our property, respect the property of others, utilize the collective public services and infrastructure, obey agreed upon laws and statutes, and pay our taxes and by doing so we individually support our community. These are the basics, but what if we wanted to have a GREAT community. What would it take for a community to go from good to GREAT?

The simple answer to that question is YOU! You decide by first choosing your neighborhood, then investing in your property (supporting your community individually), then looking to your neighbors and their welfare (supporting corporately). It is really very simple. “You go. We go.” It is inevitable that in the end you (we) are all in this community together and we (corporately) will decide our community’s fate. Good or GREAT?

So, what happens when folks are no longer willing or able to maintain their property individually? Either you (we) accept the blemish in the neighborhood or you (we) offer to help. It is not an emotional choice. It needs no drama. It is the inevitable.

What is impressive about the Suburban Acres Civic League is that they (we) have decided to help. It is a very beautiful community with some very caring people. It has a unique personality. I like the phrase “we will do what they say cannot be done”....and make it look as natural as rain. That is the power that YOU have when YOU make a simple decision to help. From the looks of things, you will not be alone in that choice.

The Civic League wants five bucks a year from you as annual dues and for you to contribute individually and corporately to your community. If you cannot physically help, you can be part of the fan club, be neighborly, wave at your neighbors, and applaud the GREAT work. The really neat part is YOU decide. Good or GREAT?

Isn't it GREAT to be YOU rather than Everybody, Anybody, Somebody and Nobody? I look forward to seeing YOU at the next gathering.

**Steve Collins**



## JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS AT SUBURBAN ACRES HARVEST CELEBRATION

ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 FROM 5:30 TO 7:30 PM

The evenings are growing cool, and the colors of the leaves are just beginning to break. The feeling of change is in the air, and with it comes another opportunity for us to get together and enjoy our neighbors and community. On Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, Suburban Acres Civic League is hosting the 2nd Annual Harvest Celebration!

**You're invited to join us at the Better Business Bureau facility, located at 586 Virginian Drive (behind Tinee Giant). Off street parking is available in the BBB lot with entrance at the rear of the building.**



**Fun for the whole family!**

**Enter the Chili Contest:** Bring a crock-pot of your prize winning family recipe

**Pumpkin Carving Contest:** bring your already carved pumpkin

**Mini Pumpkin Decorating:** mini pumpkins will be provided for the children to decorate during the party

**Refreshments:** provided by the Civic League

**Memories:** provided by you!

*Costumes encouraged!*

Call Susan Boice, 531-0487, for information, or to volunteer to help at the event.

### HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS FROM THE U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

**Treats:** Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has examined them for evidence of tampering.

**Flame Resistant Costumes:** When purchasing a costume, masks, beards, or wigs, look for the label *Flame Resistant*.

Although this label does not mean these items won't catch fire, it does indicate the items will resist burning and should extinguish quickly once removed from the ignition source. Avoid costumes made with flimsy materials and outfits with big, baggy sleeves or billowing skirts.

**Costume Designs:** Purchase or make costumes that are light and bright enough to be clearly visible to motorists and decorate or trim costumes, bags or sacks with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of headlights. To easily see and be seen, children should carry flashlights.

Costumes should be short enough to prevent tripping and falling.

Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Hats and scarfs should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes.

Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear

a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.

Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

**Pedestrian Safety:** Young children should be accompanied by an adult or an older, responsible child. Children should WALK, not run from house to house and use the sidewalk if available, rather than walk in the street. Children should be cautioned against running out from between parked cars, or across lawns and yards where ornaments, furniture, or clotheslines present dangers.

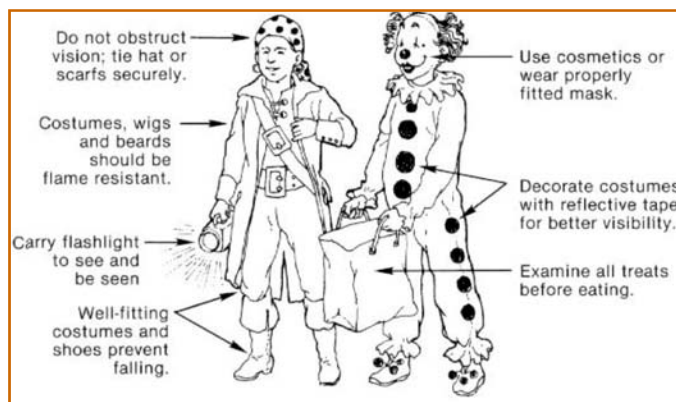
**Choosing Safe Houses:** Children should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome and should not enter homes or

apartments unless they are accompanied by an adult.

People expecting trick-or-treaters should remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps and porches. Candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.

For more Information:

<http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PUBS/100.html>



# October Word Search

S O C O S T U M E S A  
P C F O L I A G E T U  
U T O H P U R H A R T  
M O N A A L L O W I U  
P B Y L O R G U A C M  
K E N L C U V L Y K N  
I R B O O N U E R O O  
N U L W E D I G S R Y  
F C T E N O T H S T G  
E A N E I G H O B R E  
L O L N H E D S P E M  
L A I L T O O T H A C  
C H A N G E L L Y T L

Autumn	Fall	Harvest
Boo	Foliage	October
Calendula	Ghost	Opal
Change	Ghoul	Pumpkin
Costumes	Halloween	Trick or Treat



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Norfolk, VA 23510

### Suburban Acres Civic League Officers

**Tim Fox, President**  
338-0439  
saclpresident@gmail.com

**JoDee Cook,  
Acting Vice President**  
587-7918

**Eric Heard, Secretary**  
963-6996  
sacsecretary@gmail.com

**Bruce Larson, Treasurer**  
761-0192  
larsonontheroad@msn.com

### Board of Directors

**Susan Boice** 531-0487

**Jeb Clarke** 626-0076

**Robert Lain** 469-3685

**Audrey Renn** 763-8911

E-mail the Civic League  
suburbanacres@gmail.com

Newsletter/Communications  
suburbanacres@gmail.com

**Bruce Larson**  
**Tim Fox**  
**Susan Boice**

Newsletter Advertising  
**Dennis Mori**  
moriconi26@msn.com  
761-0197

Newsletter Distribution  
**Mary Verykousis**  
587-1221

**PACE Officer**  
**Officer Curtis Jackson**  
curtis.jackson@norfolk.gov  
831-3484

**Non Emergency Police**  
441-5610  
**Code Enforcements** 664-6532  
**Norfolk Cares** 664-6510

**Neighborhood Watch  
Coordinator**  
**Rob Lain**  
469-3685

Visit our website at

[www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com)

**HAPPY  
HALLOWE'EN!!**

*On Hallowe'en the thing  
you must do  
Is pretend that nothing  
can frighten you  
An' if somethin' scares you  
and you want to run  
Jus' let on like  
it's Hallowe'en fun.*

—from an  
Early  
19th Century  
Halloween  
Postcard

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**Being an active member of your community  
has never been as important as it is today.**

We need your involvement in the Suburban Acres Civic League. The larger our membership, the louder our voice will be heard! Don't wait, join today! Individual Membership is \$5.00 and Family Membership (two individuals) is \$10.00. Make checks payable to "**Suburban Acres Civic League**".

### Suburban Acres Civic League Membership Form 2009

Individual \$5.00

Family \$10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print and include both names for family membership)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **Suburban Acres Civic League**. Bring to the next meeting or mail this form to Bruce Larson, Treasurer, Suburban Acres Civic League, 574 Thole St. Norfolk, VA 23505. **And thank you for your support!**